

Ephesians: God's New Community

"Knowing Jesus more and more" (Ephesians 1:15-23)

1. Christians are family together (v.15-16)

- We're family through faith in Jesus
- We love each other as family
- We pray for each other as family

2. Christians pray that we would each know Jesus better (v.17-23)

"I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better" (v.17)

Paul prays for the Ephesian Christians to know:

- The hope of God's call (v.18)
- The glory of God's inheritance (v.18)
- The greatness of God's power (v.19-23)
 - a. Jesus Christ's resurrection from the dead (v.20)
 - b. Jesus Christ's enthronement over evil (v.20-22)
 - c. Jesus Christ's headship of the church (v.22-23)

So who are you praying for that they would 'know' these crucial things?

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Digging Deeper notes for personal or group reflection

Christians are family together

Do you see other Christians as your spiritual family? How should that affect the way we relate to each other?

How can you demonstrate a love for all God's people rather than just those who get on with best?

Do you thank God in prayer for the work of grace in the lives of other Christians?

Christians pray that we would each know Jesus better

How does the Holy Spirit help us to know Jesus in 'experience' rather than simply head knowledge about him?

What aspect of God's calling on your life most excites you? What aspect is most daunting? How does the fact that this call ends in glory reassure & motivate you?

How does Jesus' death & resurrection prove that God has ultimate power?

How have you experienced his power at work in your life?

In what areas of your life would you love to see His power at work?

In what ways would you love to see His power at work in & through our church?

Who can you pray for to 'know' Jesus more & more in the ways Paul prays for the Ephesians?